

TESTIMONY OF THE
LUMBER DEALERS' ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT
BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 25, 2013, 10:30 AM, ROOM 2D

Good morning. My name is Robert P. Sanford. I am the President of Sanford & Hawley, Inc., which is an independent building materials supplier. We have been located in Unionville for 129 years. We also have locations in Manchester and Avon.

I am here today as a representative of the Lumber Dealers' Association of Connecticut ("LDAC") and to ask that **you please amend HB 6438 AA Restricting The Use of Methoprene And Resmethrin.**

HB 6438 intends to restrict the use of potentially hazardous chemicals. However, there is a more immediate danger that should also be addressed. The use of magnesium chloride and calcium chloride on our state's roads has caused major damage to several of our vehicles. Because of the highly corrosive nature of these chemicals, we have had to prematurely retire three vehicles used in our business. My story is common in our Association.

- Our 2002 Ford F-250, which was current on inspections, had a brake line burst in August while being driven. It barely missed a serious collision. Our mechanic said that the premature burst was due to the new road salt.
- Our 1998 Mitsubishi medium duty truck had such major body rust that the dump body became inoperable. We had to redeploy it as a plow truck only when it would not pass a DOT inspection due to the rust. Based upon the grade of the truck and its mileage, it should have lasted at least another five years.
- And a third vehicle, a 2004 Chevy Silverado, also had to prematurely retired due to rusted brake lines and other significant rust damage. The estimate to replace the brake lines alone was over \$3,000. The truck had less than 150,000 miles on it and should have lasted several more years.

In each case, the vehicles were properly maintained; but the highly corrosive effects of magnesium chloride and calcium chloride were the primary cause of the damage.

It is time to stop the use of these chemicals on our roads. **Please amend HB 6438.**

This completes my testimony. Thank you for your consideration.